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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/950,030	09/10/2001	Toshio Itai	FP01-091US	1719

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CASELLA & HESPOS  
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EXAMINER

ARBES, CARL J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

N.K.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/950,030

Applicant(s)

ITAI ET AL.

Examiner

C. J. Arbes

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 6 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9 and 10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5,6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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Applicants' Election, filed on or about 28 April 2003 has been duly considered. The Office's Restriction mailed on or about 08 April 2003 is held to have been proper with the exception that Claim 15 also is in Group I invention. That is Group I consists of Claims 1-8 and 11-14. Therefore in view of this holding and further in view of Applicants' response thereto the Restriction is hereby **made Final**. Applicants are required to cancel Group II (Claims 9 and 10) or take other appropriate action.

An Office Action on the merits of Claims 1-8 and 11-15 now follows.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adlon et al.

Adlon et al teach an assembly for connecting electrical connectors to a multi-conductor cable. A robot feeds a connector to a nest. The connector has a housing with insulation-displacement terminals mounted therein. (Cf. Figure 1) . A cover holder holds the cover (12) Element 42 is denoted the press, cable feed station is 40, element 74 is the conductor checking device. The connection assisting means is construed as the element denoted as 60 which is operative for moving in a vertical axis perpendicular to a movable unit as the element labeled 56. It would have been obvious to sequentially press the wire pushing device and the cover holder if in fact Adlon et al do not teach the

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same so that the wire arrives in the area in which it is to be electrically connected before the IDC terminals are pressed into the conductors. As applied to Claim 11 it would have been obvious to provide a reciprocably movable unit connected to connection assisting parts and operative to move connection assisting parts along a second axis substantially perpendicular to the pressing axis if in fact Adlon et al do not expressly teach this limitation inasmuch as Adlon et al do teach having a movable unit which has a broader range of motion than what Applicants have.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to C. J. Arbes at telephone number (703) 308-1857.

*CJA*  
CARL J. ARBES  
PRIMARY EXAMINER